

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, On average, 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; nearly 70 percent of these are fatalities caused by drowning; and,

Whereas, The vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment, or environmental factors; and,

Whereas, A significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn life jackets; and,

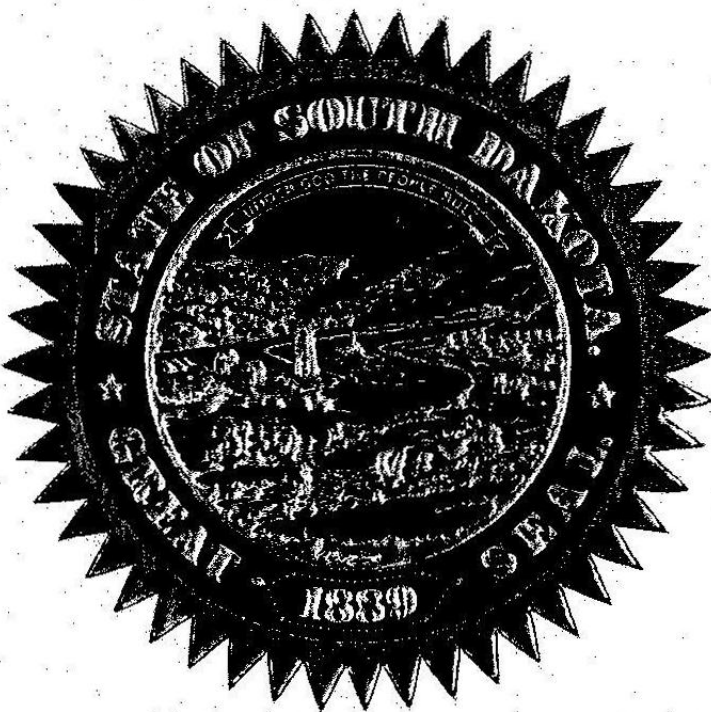
Whereas, Modern life jackets are more comfortable, more attractive, and more wearable than styles of years past and deserve a fresh look by today's boating public; and,

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 21 through 27, 2005, as

SAFE BOATING WEEK

in South Dakota, and the start of the year-round effort to promote safe boating, and I urge all who boat to "Boat Smart. Boat Safe. Wear It." and practice safe boating habits.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.



M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Ch. Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State